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CHARTER

Constitution and By-Laws

OF THE

Madison County Historical Society.

INCORPORATED MARCH 29, 1900.

Oneida, N. Y., September, 1900.

ONEIDA, N. Y.:
BAKER & MAXON, PRINTERS.
1900.

INTRODUCTION.

The Madison County Historical Society is the result of the necessity that has been felt with considerable force the past few years.

Although the county has not reached its centenial, (incorporated in 1806,) and Oneida is one of its youngest villages, (incorporated in 1846,) the early events in the history of the county, and many in the history of the village, no longer exist in the memory of the living; the actors have passed away, written accounts have disappeared, valuable material has been destroyed.

Not only the history of the pioneers of the county and their achievements needed preservation, but the part taken in the civil war by citizens and organizations of the county, and of the various villages of the county, deserved a place in local history where they could be given larger space and more extended notice than in the National, State, Military or regimental histories.

It was seen that unless some association was formed for the purpose of gathering and caring for them, many historically valuable facts and relics and much interesting material would be forever lost.

Several attempts were made by a few citizens of Oneida during the last few years to provide for this necessity, by calling meetings for the purpose of organizing a Historical Society. The meetings were so poorly attended that the efforts of the promoters ended only in regrets.

Mr. DeWitt C. Hadcock succeeded in awakening interest in local history by various letters, and articles published in the New York, Utica and Oneida newspapers, and finally called a meeting to be held at Oneida, April 20, 1898, for the purpose of taking the proper steps for incorporating such a society. He invited Gen. Charles W. Darling, Secretary of the Oneida County Historical Society, to deliver an address. At the close of the meeting many of the persons whose names appear as members of this society signed their names as incorporators.

Meetings were regularly held and a charter was finally obtained from the Regents of the University of the State of New York.

The objects of the society are fully set forth in the constitution. It is hoped it will meet with the hearty support of the citizens of the county, and fulfill the designs and wishes of its founders.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

PROVISIONAL

CHARTER OF

Madison County Historical Society

Whereas, a petition for incorporation by the University has been duly received containing satisfactory statements under oath as to the objects, plans, property and provision for maintenance of the proposed corporation

Therefore, being satisfied that all requirements prescribed by law or University ordinance for such an association have been fully met and that public interests justify such action, the Regents by virtue of the authority conferred on them by law hereby incorporate provisionally

THEODORE COLES,
SAMUEL A. MAXON, EDWIN J. BROWN,
THEODORE F. HAND, HIRAM L. ROCKWELL,
DANIEL KEATING, WILLIAM H. FARNHAM.

And their successors in office under the corporate name of

MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

This corporation shall be located at Oneida, Madison Co., N. Y.

Its first trustees shall be the seven above named incorporators.

Its object shall be to collect and preserve materials pertaining to the natural history, archeology, history, art and industries within Madison County and publish information connected therewith.

If within five years satisfactory evidence is submitted that all requirements of law or University ordinances as then in force are fully met, the Regents will make this charter absolute, but otherwise after July 1, 1905, on notice from the Regents to this effect, it shall terminate and become void and shall be surrendered to the Regents.

In Witness Whereof, the Regents grant this charter No. 1345 under seal of the University, at the capitol in Albany, March 29, 1900.

ANSON JUDD UPSON, Chancellor.

J. R. PARSONS, Jr., Secretary.

Recorded and took effect 3:30 P. M., March 29, 1900.

OFFICERS.

President, THEODORE COLES, Oneida, N. Y.

Vice-Presidents,

DEWITT C. HADCOCK, Oneida, N. Y.,

H. H. DOUGLASS, Oneida, N. Y.,

LEGRAND COLTON, Canastota, N. Y.

Rec. Secretary, S. A. MAXON, Oneida, N. Y.

Cor. Secretary, EDWIN J. BROWN, Oneida, N. Y.

Treasurer, T. F. HAND.

Librarian, A. B. FRENCH.

COUNCILORS.

C. WHITFORD, Town of Brookfield.

WILLIAM WATKINS, Town of Cazenovia.

B. S. BRYANT, Town of DeRuyter.

HON. JOHN E. SMITH, Town of Eaton.

HON. F. A. HYATT, Town of Fenner.

A. A. STODDARD, Town of Georgetown.

J. S. KIMBERLY, Town of Hamilton.

M. E. BARLOW, Town of Lenox.

A. W. PALMER, Town of Lincoln.

ISAIAH HEAD, Town of Lebanon.

HON. S. R. MOTT, Town of Madison.

M. D. LYON, Town of Nelson.

DR. H. W. CARPENTER, Town of Oneida.

HON. GERRIT S. MILLER, Town of Smithfield.

EDWIN C. SKADEN, Town of Stockbridge.

E. H. TAYLOR, Town of Sullivan.

CHARTER MEMBERS.

C. Whitford	Brookfield, N. Y.
LeGrand Colton	Canastota, N. Y.
M. Eugene Barlow	"
Wm. Watkins	Cazenovia, N. Y.
B. S. Bryant	DeRuyter, N. Y.
Walter Morse	Eaton, N. Y.
John E. Smith	"
F. A. Hyatt	Fenner, N. Y.
A. A. Stoddard	Georgetown, N. Y.
J. S. Kimberly	Hamilton, N. Y.
Isaiah Head	Lebanon. N. Y.
A. W. Palmer	Lincoln, N. Y.
C. W. Dexter	Munnsville, N. Y.
S. R. Mott	Madison, N. Y.
M. D. Lyon	Nelson, N. Y.
Theodore Coles	Oneida, N. Y.
Frances Messinger Coles	"
E. Fredrica Goodrich	"
W. H. Farnham	"
Hiram L. Rockwell	"
Samuel A. Maxon	"
Sylvia Stringer Maxon	"
Kate Stewart Warr	"
W. W. Warr	"
Theodore F. Hand	"
John E. Stone	"
Fred Hodges	"
Alice N. Warner Hodges	"
Kate A. Barstow Brown	"
Edwin J. Brown	"
Jeannie D. Saunders	"
Mrs. M. C. Treat	"

A. B. French - - - Oneida, N. Y.
H. W. Carpenter, M. D. - - "
Emma L. Carpenter - - - "
Mary Dyer Jackson - - - "
Theodore Carter - - - "
Mrs. Flora Kilbourne Carter - "
Daniel Keating - - - - "
Sands H. Goodwin - - - "
Anna Backus Goodwin - - - "
Mrs. Niles Higinbotham - - "
Louise Higinbotham - - - "
Lily Higinbotham - - - "
Samuel Jessup, D. D. - - - "
C. Will Chappell - - - "
W. M. Baker - - - - "
E. Leland Hunt - - - "
Wilfred A. Leete - - - "
F. S. Hammond - - - "
George LeRoy Menzie, M. D. - "
Ambrose E. Sawyer - - "
Mrs Alice Decker Sawyer - - "
Joseph Beal - - - - "
Edward B. French - - - "
Wm. K. Jermy - - - - "
Gerrit Smith Miller - - Peterboro, N. Y.
DeWitt C. Hadcock - - Stockbridge, N. Y.
E. H. Taylor - - - Sullivan, N. Y.
J. Emerson Quackenbush - "
Edwin C. Skaden - - "
F. C. Dindonne - - Washington, D. C.
Wm. R. Maxon - - - "
Lyman J. Gage - - - "

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called "The Madison County Historical Society."

ARTICLE II.

The principal office of the Society shall be located at Oneida, in said county.

ARTICLE III.

The object of the Society shall be the discovery, collection, preservation and publication of the history, historical records and data of and relating to that part of the State of New York known as Madison County, and originally occupied, or claimed by the Oneida tribe of the Iroquois ; the collection and preservation of books, newspapers, pamphlets, maps, genealogies, portraits, paintings, relics, manuscripts, letters, journals, surveys, field-books and any and all other materials which may establish, or illustrate such history, or the growth and progress of population, wealth, education, arts, agriculture, manufacture and commerce in Central New York.

ARTICLE IV.

The Society shall consists of resident, corresponding, honorary and life members. The names of all candidates shall be referred to the Committee on Membership, and action shall not be taken until a subsequent meeting, when, upon a report from that Committee, a majority of votes shall be required for election.

ARTICLE V.

Resident members shall pay on admission an initiation fee of one dollar, which shall be full payment of initiation and annual dues for the first year, ending the third Wednesday in January following, and thereafter an annual fee of one dollar. Any member in arrears for annual dues on the third Wednesday in January, in each year, and who shall have received notice thereof from the Treasurer, as early as the preceding first day of October shall no longer be considered a member of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.

The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer and a Librarian, who shall be elected annually, on the third Wednesday in January, in each year, by a majority of ballots.

There shall be an Executive Committee, which shall consist of the President, the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary and the Treasurer, (who shall be members of said Committee by virtue of their offices), and three members to be elected annually, by ballot, at the annual meeting in January, from among the members of the Society residing in Oneida.

The said Executive Committee shall constitute a Board of Managers of the Society, exercising the duties and discharging the responsibilities which belong to boards of trustees in general.

Five members of the Board of Managers shall constitute a quorum at any regularly called meeting.

ARTICLE VII.

There shall be a Board of sixteen Councilors, one residing in each town in Madison County, who shall hold office for one year.

ARTICLE VIII.

None but resident, or life, members shall be eligible to office, or qualified to vote.

ARTICLE IX.

Life Membership. The payment of twenty-five dollars, at one time, shall constitute a life member, exempt from the payment of annual dues. The proceeds of all life membership dues and all donations, unless otherwise designated by the donors, shall be held and safely invested under the advice and consent of the Committee of Finance, by the Treasurer, as a permanent fund, the income of which shall be available for the payment of the necessary current expenses for the maintenance and care of the building occupied by the Society.

ARTICLE X.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, regulate its proceedings, and have a casting vote. He shall be chairman of the Board of Managers. Either of the Vice-Presidents may discharge the duties of the President in his absence, except no Vice-President can act as a member of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XI.

The Recording Secretary shall have the custody of the constitution, by-laws and records of the Society. He shall give due notice of all regular and special meetings, and keep a record of the proceedings of the same. At least two days' no-

tice shall be given of all special meetings. He shall be Secretary of the Board of Managers and keep a record of its proceedings.

ARTICLE XII.

The Corresponding Secretary shall have custody of all letters and communications on the business of the Society and shall submit to the Society all communications received by him as such Secretary. He shall, under the direction of the Society, prepare all communications to be addressed to others in the name of the Society and keep true copies of such as may be important.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Treasurer shall receive and keep all securities and moneys due and payable, or belonging to the Society. He shall keep the funds of the Society on deposit to his credit, as such Treasurer, in some institution to be approved by the Board of Managers, and shall pay such sums as the Society shall direct, upon the written order, or warrant of the President, or in case of his absence, or disability, one of the Vice-Presidents. He shall keep a true account of his receipts and disbursements and render a statement thereof at the annual meeting of the Society, or whenever called upon to do so by the Society, or the Board of Managers. He may also be required to give such bonds as the Board of Managers may direct.

ARTICLE XIV.

The Librarian shall, also under the direction of the Board of Managers, have the custody of the Library and Cabinet, including all manuscript, documents, coins, relics, pictures and maps, and shall prepare and continue a catalogue of the same. He shall arrange the collection of the So-

ciety in a manner suitable for convenient reference and inspection.

He shall keep a record of all donations to the society and make a report of the same at each regular meeting, and shall prepare and read at each annual meeting a statement of the growth and condition of the Library and collections of the Society.

ARTICLE XV.

It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to discharge towards the society the duties which ordinarily belong to boards of managers of corporations, subject only to the restrictions of this constitution. It shall exercise a general supervision over the funds and affairs of the Society, and at any time may restrain any appropriation of money ordered by the Society, which, in its judgment, is not warranted, or is forbidden by Article nineteen, of this Constitution. It shall make annually, on the third Wednesday in January, a detailed report to the Society, of its transactions for the preceding year, with such recommendations for the development of the Society as seem to be best.

ARTICLE XVI.

All officers shall continue in office until their successors are elected. Any vacancies in office may be filled for the unexpired term, at any regular meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE XVII.

Regular meetings of the Society shall be held monthly, on the third Wednesday of each month. The President, or either of the Vice-Presidents, in his absence, may direct the call of a special meeting at any time.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Five members who shall attend any regularly called meeting of the Society, shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XIX.

No debt shall be incurred in the name of the Society, for any purpose whatever, beyond the amount of its unappropriated funds in the hands of the Treasurer at the time any expenditure may be authorized. Nor shall any officer incur any obligations in the name of the Society, without authority previously conferred by a vote of the Society, or by the written order of the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE XX.

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present, at a regular meeting of the Society, provided notice of the proposed amendment is given at the previous regular meeting.

BY-LAWS.

I. The regular meeting of this Society shall be held at the rooms of the Society, at 8 o'clock, P. M., unless a different hour shall be designated at the previous meeting.

II. Special meetings may be called at any such time and place as the President, or either of the Vice-Presidents, in the absence of the President, may designate.

The Recording Secretary shall give notice through the Press, or otherwise, of both regular and special meetings of the Society.

III. Any meeting may be adjourned to such time as a majority of the members present shall determine.

IV. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held on the third Wednesday of January, in each year.

The election of officers shall then take place, and the annual reports of the officers of the previous year shall be received, and if approved, adopted.

V. At the next regular meeting after the annual election of officers, or as soon thereafter as may be convenient, the President shall appoint from the active members of the Society, the following standing committees, to consist of three members each, viz :

1. A Committee on Finance.
2. A Committee on Rooms and Property.
3. A Committee on Addresses and Publications.
4. A Committee on Membership.

VI. The President shall be *ex-officio* chairman of the Committee on Finance, constituting one of the three forming such committee. It shall be the duty of such committee to supervise the books, accounts and reports of the Treasurer and the financial receipts and expenditures of the Society; it shall also be its duty to consider and recommend all suitable measures to increase the revenues of the Society, and promote economy in its expenditures. It shall examine and report on all accounts and claims against the Society and upon all propositions for the appropriation and expenditures of its funds. It shall also recommend to the Society a proper investment of its funds.

VII. The Committee on rooms and Property shall have the charge and supervision of the rooms of the Society and its property; shall keep the same in repair and shall recommend such additions from time to time, as the growth of the Society shall render necessary.

It shall have the general charge and supervision of the library, and of all propositions in regard to its use, increase and management; or in regard to the procurement, exchange, or other disposition of books, periodicals and pamphlets, or their binding and preservation. It shall supervise the cataloguing of the collections of the Society, and shall take such steps, from time to time, as may be necessary to secure a proper accountability for said collections and library.

It shall have supervision of the solicitation and transportation of donations for the collections of the Society; shall make such recommendations to the Society in regard to the procuring of historical materials, by purchase or otherwise, as shall seem to it desirable.

VIII. The Committee on Addresses and Publications shall arrange for the delivery of papers and addresses on historical topics and investigations connected with the objects of the Society, to be read at the regular meetings and shall recommend, from time to time, an orator to address the Society.

It shall have charge of preparing and supervising all the publications of the Society, in order that the same may be properly and correctly printed whenever directed by the Society.

It shall also recommend for publication by the Society such material as it may deem advisable.

IX. The Committee on Membership shall inquire into the qualifications of candidates proposed for members and promptly report thereon to the Society ; and it shall be its duty to labor to increase the membership by inducing all proper persons to become members.

X. All reports of the Standing Committees shall be made to the Society in writing and placed upon file ; but the Committees may report by resolution if they shall deem it expedient.

XI. All books, manuscripts and other articles belonging to the Society shall be plainly marked with the name of the Society and with the name of the donor.

They shall be numbered and entered correspondingly in the catalogue.

XII. No books, charts, manuscripts, or copies thereof, nor any other article belonging to the library, or cabinet of the Society, shall be taken from its room without the written permission of the Librarian, who shall take and file a receipt for the same.

XIII. No books, or other articles placed on deposit with the Society, shall be removed from the library except on the written consent of the owner.

XIV. The printed books in the library of the Society shall be accessible to all members, whether resident, life, honorary or corresponding, and its manuscript collections at the discretion of the Librarian.

To visitors, who are not members, access to the manuscript collections of the Society can be had only by the consent of the librarian, or a member of the committee on the library.

XV. Any member of this Society may be expelled by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members present at a regular meeting, but no such vote shall be taken unless notice of the motion to expel shall have been given at the previous regular meeting.

XVI. Any of the By-Laws may be suspended in case of a temporary emergency, by the unanimous vote of a meeting duly organized.

They may be amended, from time to time, by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given at the previous regular meeting.

XVII. At the regular meetings of the Society the following shall be the order of business :

1. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.
2. Acknowledgment of donations to the Society.

3. Reports and communications from the officers of the Society.
4. Reports from the Standing Committees.
5. Reports from Special Committees.
6. Election of members.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Reading of papers and delivering of addresses.

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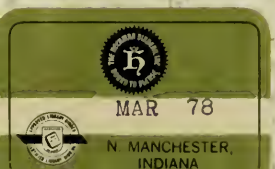
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